

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

November 4, 2013

www.op97.org

Important Dates

Science Research Paper Due	November 7
BRAVO Walking field trip	November 8
Outdoor Ed	November 14-15

Dear Families,

Outdoor Education

Our Outdoor Ed trip is coming up soon. All permission slips and health forms should have been turned in. A representative from Lorado Taft will be here on Friday to give the students a preview of what we will be doing and where we will be staying. Please take a look at the parent information letter posted on the wiki, and contact your child's homeroom teacher if you have questions about Outdoor Ed.

BRAVO Field Trip

On Friday, we will be walking to Brooks to see a performance of *Annie*. There is no cost for this trip, but we do need a signed permission slip. Pink permission slips were sent home at the end of last week, and a copy is also posted on the 5th grade wiki. Please sign this form and have your child return it to his/her homeroom teacher. We will return to Holmes at about 12:30, which is too late for hot lunch, so **all 5th grade students should bring a sack lunch on Friday**. We will eat when we get back from Brooks.

Coat Drive

The Holmes Girls Scout Junior Troop (4th grade) are collecting winter clothing on behalf of Kids' Kloset. They are collecting sturdy, gently used, clean, cold weather children's clothes with no holes or large stains, including outerwear, backpacks and footwear. Only new underwear and socks will be accepted. There is a special need for larger sizes (12- 20), boys' clothes, and like-new shoes and coats. A donation box will be in the Holmes school lobby between **October 29—November 15**. Troop leaders will pick up your donation if you can't drop it off. Please email gs41757@gmail.com.

Bowling Field Trip

Thanks to all the parents/guardians who chaperoned. The kids had a terrific time at our first Guilder field trip. Now it's time to start saving for the next Guilder activity -- Guilderpalooza in January!

Typing Practice

Students can log on to Custom Typing from home to begin practicing keyboarding skills. The Custom Typing program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is: <http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art - [www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com) 5th grade artists are looking at the artwork Keith Haring, paying attention to how he uses lines. Our project is called "The Longest Line." On a 12"x18" piece of paper we put a dot in the corner and carefully began drawing one continuous line. The line may never be more than ½" an inch away from another line and may never cross over itself. It would then make a shape, no shapes! It may change styles as many times as they like and finally it must end back at the dot where we started. Lastly, we trace our hands (left and right) over our lines. This made our hands fill up with shapes. We colored these shapes with markers. Sound confusing? Take a look!

Music - We are continuing recorder this week so if your student has not brought it yet, please read the following: **Recorders are \$6 cash, check (to district 97) or can be bought through the Holmes school store. They will lose points off of their effort grade if they do not have a recorder.** Last week, we learned about the music of Ancient Rome and review our notes on the recorder. Students who are new to the recorder should consider joining the Recorder Karate club Wednesdays at 11:45 to catch up in their recorder skills.

Chorus - Our next chorus performance will be Saturday, November 23rd at the Oak Park Arms. The permission slip was sent home this week. **If you do not receive it, please email me at akaria@op97.org.** We will be singing at the end of the year at a Chicago Sky (women's basketball) game at half time. The date is TBD because the season dates will not be decided on till January. I will need some parental help with this performance. If you are interested in being a chorus parent please email me at akaria@op97.org.

Spanish - Lynn Allen from the Multicultural Center will be here on Tuesday for presentations on Latino and Hispanic heritage as well as El Dia de los Muertos. Students will be beginning a new story and working with a song in preparation for the Spanish and Music Showcase in December.
<http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/> .

Library - READING OLYMPIANS! We will have a meeting this Wednesday, November 6th during recess. Please remind your teammates that we will be meeting! We will talk about the upcoming competition and I will pass out order forms for the first ever district-wide reading olympics TSHIRT! This totally optional purchase is \$12; money and order forms should be returned to me by Tuesday, November 12. In other news... Don't forget you can go here: <http://www.op97.org/library/Tools.cfm> to see an example of a source card (for the research project due November 7th). Fill in each line according to what it asks for (for example, "contributor" is a book or article's author). The library home page is <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/> . As always, feel free to email me with questions mmaneck@op97.org .

Physical Education - (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) Heartland adventure is heading our way in p.e. for the entire month of November. This is an activity that teaches our boys and girls the functions of the circulatory and respiratory systems. Also our annual turkey trot is scheduled for November 25, 2013, more information to come.

Resource

Ms. Rose has created a new blog for the families of her Resource students. For more information on her activities, please visit: [Ms. Rose- Resource Support](#)

Reading/Literature

This week we will continue our work to understand how to make an inference and begin talking about the larger themes in books. Students will use *Bud, Not Buddy* to predict what may happen in future parts of the book. What does the author mean from the things that are not being said directly? What is the author really trying to say? We'll start the week reading chapter 14.

Writing

Students will use some of their writing time to work on their Science research papers. In addition, students will log on to Custom Typing to practice keyboarding skills. The Custom Typing program is accessible from the District's website, and students should be practicing keyboarding skills at home.

Math

Graded quizzes will be returned early this week. We will continue to work with decimals this week. Our focus will be on comparing decimals and rounding decimals. We will be using place value charts and vertical number lines to work on these skills. A blank place value chart and a vertical number line are posted on the Math page of the 5th grade wiki. You can print these out for use at home.

Science

Students have spent time in class working on their science research papers. The final paper, three source cards, and Big 6 packet are due November 7. This week, we also will analyze how carbon is connected on our planet by playing a carbon web game.

Social Studies

Students will continue to learn about the Native Americans that lived in four different geographic regions of the United States. We will be examining how the natural environment affected their culture and working on the skill of identifying main ideas and supporting details. Then, we will debate the appropriateness of the use of Native American images as mascots for sports teams.

Please check the Wiki to see when it is your student's week to be a reporter for our Current events project and present a current event he/she finds important and relevant. All the materials are available on our Wiki (<http://5k-socialstudies.wikispaces.com/home>).

Spelling/Word Study

Due to the BRAVO trip shortening our reading schedule, we will not have Spelling words this week. Word Study will be done in class. We will continue to learn vocabulary from Bud, Not Buddy and discuss the denotation and connotation of words.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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